PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

CAMBRIDGE ENTOMOLOGICAL CLUB.

10 March, 1893.— The 177th meeting was held at 156 Brattle St. Mr. S. Henshaw was chosen chairman and Mr. H. G. Dyar secretary.

Mr. S. H. Scudder directed attention to a passage in his Butterflies of the Eastern United States, where he had questioned whether Tropaeolum was one of the food plants of Pieris rapae, as he thought there might be a confusion from the fact that the caterpillar fed upon the genus Nasturtium which was the common name of Tropaeolum; but he

read a letter from Mr. H. B. Fletcher of England who assured him that he had found the eggs and caterpillars on two species of Tropaeolum, one of the Geraniaceae.

Mr. Scudder also exhibited numerous specimens of Schistocerca literosa Walk., from the Galapagos Islands and showed the differences between the races inhabiting three distinct islands. In some further remarks upon the orthoptera of the Galapagos, he said that the paucity of species and their character in no way supported Baur's notion that these islands formed part of a sunken continent, but decidedly indicated a recent accidental fauna.

JUST PUBLISHED.

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An introduction, for the young student, to the names and something of the relationship and lives of our commoner butterflies. The author has selected for treatment the butterflies, less than one hundred in number, which would be almost surely met with by an industrious collector in a course of a year's or two year's work in our Northern States east of the Great Plains, and in Canada. While all the apparatus necessary to identify these butterflies, in their earlier as well as perfect stage, is supplied, it is far from the author's purpose to treat them as if they were so many mere postage-stamps to be classified and arranged in a cabinet. He has accordingly added to the descriptions of the different species, their most obvious stages, some of the curious facts concerning their periodicity and their habits of life. A short introduction to the study of butterflies in general is prefixed to the work, and is followed by a brief account of the principal literature of the subject.

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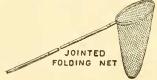
In this book the author has tried to present in untechnical language the story of the life of one of our most conspicuous American butterflies. At the same time, by introducing into the account of its anatomy, development, distribution, enemies, and seasonal changes some comparisons with the more or less dissimilar structure and life of other butterflies, and particularly of our native forms, he has endeavored to give, in some fashion and in brief space, a general account of the lives of the whole tribe. By using a single butterfly as a special text, one may discourse at pleasure of many; and in the limited field which our native butterflies cover, this method has a certain advantage from its simplicity and directness.

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